

MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM



Enteroviruses/EnterovirusD68

www.southwestgeorgiapublichealth.org

Enteroviruses are very common viruses – there are more than 100.

Most people infected with them have no symptoms or mild symptoms, but some infections can be serious. Most enterovirus infections occur during the summer and fall.

EnterovirusD68 infections are less common than other enterovirus infections.

Current situation in Georgia

No cases have been confirmed in Georgia as of Sept. 9 despite nationally published media reports.

Signs and symptoms

EV-D68 can cause mild to severe respiratory illness. Symptoms may include rash, wheezing or difficulty breathing and fever.

Guidance to parents

Parents whose children have cold-like symptoms and are experiencing difficulty breathing are recommended to consult with their healthcare provider for further evaluation. **If children have asthma or other chronic diseases they are considered to be at high risk for complications.**

If children who develop high fever, turn blue from inability to breathe/or cannot catch their breath, it should be considered a medical emergency and 9-1-1 should be contacted immediately.

Transmission

EV-D68, like other enteroviruses, appears to spread through close contact with infected people.

Prevention

There is no vaccine to prevent EV-D68 infections.

Ways to reduce the risk of getting infected

- Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds, especially after changing diapers
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid kissing, hugging and sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are sick
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as toys and door knobs, especially if someone is sick
- Stay home if sick

Source: National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



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